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THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 15 www.associatednewspapers.net

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
Vol. 135, No. 15

The Sumpter Township Public Safety Department helped Blakely Cates enjoy a very special 8th birthday celebration last week during

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Following complaints about criminal sexual conduct at a Canton massage parlor in 2018, members of the township board of trustees have updated ordinance language.

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THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR
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A new task force, created by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, will investigate the racial disparity in cases of COVID-19 in the state.

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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
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All Northville Township parks, including the soccer, baseball and lacrosse fields have been closed due to the coronavirus health situation.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
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The City of Plymouth and The Wilcox Foundation have mutually agreed to delay the Kellogg Park Wilcox Fountain Project until the spring of 2021.

See page 4.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN
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Romulus Mayor LeRoy Burcroff updated city residents about the current status in the city recently and offered some suggestions during the isolation.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE
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A wrestling coach and physical education teacher at Wayne Memorial High School has been terminated following a rollover accident with students in the car.

See page 6.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE
Vol. 73, No. 15

Westland Mayor William R. Wild had a sobering message for residents of the community last week reporting 278 cases of COVID-19 and 17 deaths in the city.

See page 6.

Community meetings 'zoom' to residents' homes

The coronavirus pandemic may have slowed municipalities down, but local communities are using technology to continue regular meetings and include the public.

Several have employed Zoom software which allows each of the city officials to participate in the meeting remotely using computer access and can also be accessed by citizens who can attend the meeting electronically.

Zoom is a web-based video conferencing tool with a local desktop client and a mobile application that allows users to meet online, with or without video. Zoom users can choose to record sessions, collaborate on projects, and share or annotate on one another's screens, according to the company website.

> *Local communities are using technology to continue regular meetings and include the public.*

Zoom offers video, audio, and a wireless screen-sharing performance across Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, Android, Blackberry, Zoom Rooms, and H.323/SIP room systems.

To join a meeting, first access Zoom.us on your computer. Then click the "Join a Meeting" tab located in the top right corner of the homepage. When prompted, add your designated meeting ID which will be a nine, 10 or 11-digit number. The meeting ID should be provided by the city or township you wish to access on the municipal website home page. Each meeting has a separate ID number. Those steps should provide access to the meeting.

Zoom allows users to share their screen to the entire conference call, although that feature is not usually employed during the current municipal meetings.

In Canton Township, the board of trustees continues to meet to conduct business using a live streamed video broadcast available on https://shorturl.at/ghHQ1. An agenda, public notice and full meeting packet of meeting information can also be found at https://www.canton-mi.org/AgendaCenter.

To participate in the meeting, public comments may be submitted to Michael.Siegrist@Canton-mi.org at any time prior to the meeting. Additionally, a public drop box is located outside of the Canton Administration Building at 1150 S Canton Center Road, Canton. Siegrist will read comments submitted within the rules of the township board during the meeting. Members of the public who attend by telephone or video may address the board during the public comment period via videoconference.

Since the governor announced the Stay Home Stay

See **Meetings,** page 6

Virus isolation may impact teens' mental health

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

While Growth Works, Inc. has been around since 1971, the help the agency offers teens and others with addiction and mental health issues is crucial during the current pandemic.

Staff member Patrick Stropes said he was out recently talking to a neighbor as the men took out trash cans and he asked about the neighbor's daughter during this trying time.

Stropes, the public relations and court/public safety liaison for Growth Works, said he was gratified to hear, "She's doing really well."

Such encounters can help with isolation associated with the current public health crisis, said Stropes. Some families are cutting out colorful construction paper hearts for paramedics, police, and grocery clerks as well as gas station attendants, to show their appreciation.

A Canton Township resident, Stropes said he is aware of the problems experienced when young people are alone for too long. At Growth Works, staffers are working remotely with clients and support groups, complying with health privacy laws while also taking care to be healthy themselves.

> *The key is safe and healthy, to keep your mood up, your attitude up.*

He notes Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Narcotics Anonymous and now Families Against Narcotics are helping people stay both sober/clean and connected by using technology for remote meetings. Zoom use is helpful for those who can't meet in person, he said.

Teens in western Wayne County and elsewhere are watching movies at each of their homes, he said, stopping the film and then texting to discuss it. The Facetime games have some value, too, Stropes said. "You want to have the right balance," he said of limiting screen time, especially for very young adults. "It needs to be monitored."

He added the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network at 800-241-4949 offers help around the clock with local resource information.

"They've been around a long time. They do a wonderful job in supporting our people" in addiction and mental health, he said.

"We can always do more to knock down the stigma," he noted of coverage of mental illness in mass media. The National Alliance on Mental Illness website www.nami.org is also useful, he said.

In addition to busy hospitals and clinics in metro Detroit, Stropes notes psychologists and psychiatrists not affiliated with his agency are also using computer programs to help people stay emotionally well.

Staffers at Growth Works are proud of their mission: "to help individuals and families restore hope, embrace change, and improve their lives."

Self-care is also a priority at Growth Works, which has offices including Main Street in Plymouth, Canton and others.

"Growth Works has an amazing support structure for its employees. We support each other," he said.

He is very supportive of families who, unable to observe a child's birthday for now, instead line up and drive by the home, honking car horns in encouragement.

"The key is safe and healthy, to keep your mood up, your attitude up," he said.

He agrees that a friendly word to a grocery clerk "and all those people on the front lines" matters too. The warmer temperatures of the spring season also help, he said, adding "I'm grateful for my family, another day in sobriety."

For home delivery of The Eagle call 734-467-1900.

Canton

Massage parlor ordinance updated by trustees

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Following complaints about criminal sexual conduct at a Canton massage parlor in 2018, members of the township board of trustees have updated the ordinance language applicable to these facilities, along with several others in the township.

In 2018, a young woman was living at the massage establishment, noted Township Supervisor Pat Williams during a meeting of the board of trustees recently, although police said she was not a target of an investigation at that time. The new ordinance includes explicit regulations regarding massage parlors, kennels, junkyards, arcades and fortune telling/palmistry.

Responding to a query at the recent meeting, Canton Public Safety Director Joshua Meier said that massage parlor checks, "will be random by design so we can enforce the ordinance as written."

Canton Clerk Michael Siegrist explained that the ordinance is clear about the facilities. "Two massage establishments cannot be within 1,000 feet of each other," Siegrist said. Siegrist added criminal convictions such as sexually-oriented soliciting will, under the new law in Canton, have a seven-year "cooling off" period rather than five years. Williams thanked Siegrist and others for "a lot of good high-quality meetings (that) got us to this point."

> *Trustees have addressed concerns in the past with proximity of massage businesses to day care centers and schools.*

Canton Board of Trustees members have addressed concerns in the past with proximity of massage businesses to day care centers and schools. The ordinance addresses that issue and now prohibits fortune telling/palmistry "which was determined to be illegal" commented Siegrist.

In other business, Trustee Anne Marie Hudak asked Meier if there had been increased medical rescue calls to senior health care facilities in light of the current coronavirus pandemic. Meier said that the call levels appeared to be at about the same rate as usual.

"It has not been an easy time. From my perspective the township seems to be operating on an even keel," with the average citizen not noticing differences, remarked Trustee John Anthony.

"We're in a unique position financially" compared to other municipalities, Williams said. "We'll make the best decisions we can as a team," he added.

Educator nominated for 'Teacher of the Year' award

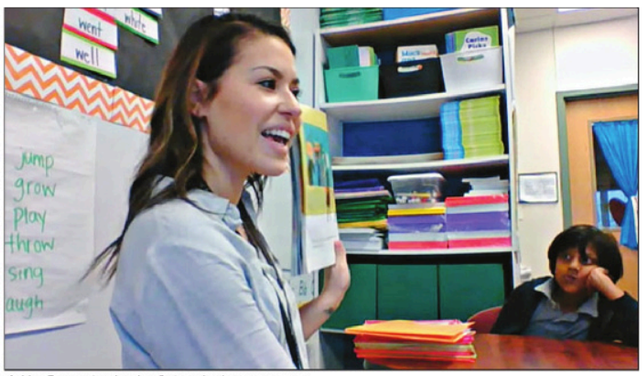
Ashley Benson, a first-grade teacher at Achieve Charter Academy in Canton Township, has been nominated as the 2020 Michigan Charter School Teacher of the Year.

"I am thrilled for Ashley to have been chosen as a finalist for Michigan Association of Public School Academies (MAPSA) Teacher of the Year," said Jennifer Conley, principal at Achieve Charter Academy.

"Ashley is one of the most compassionate and caring teachers who provides a first-grade classroom that is focused on a combination of fun, firmness, and focus. She meets the needs of all her individual learners and is a huge asset to our school community."

Every year, MAPSA Charter School Awards provide a platform to highlight outstanding educators in Michigan charter schools. There are nearly 300 charter schools across Michigan and hundreds of nominations were received for the award this year.

"We are so excited to have a member of our team receive this recognition. Ashley demonstrates sincere care for every student as she connects one-on-one with their interests and needs," said Cathy Henkenberns, director of school quality at NHA. "She is dedicated to her own learning and strives to improve her practice. As a result, her students benefit from her growth mindset and dedication to her work."



Ashley Benson teaches her first grade class. Photo submitted

To be considered for this recognition, MAPSA receives anonymous nominations from parents, teachers, school leaders, and community members to recognize those who are going above and beyond.

"Michigan's charter schools have some of the most innovative, creative and talented educators in the country, and we've seen that come to light even more in the past few weeks," said Dan Quisenberry, MAPSA president.

"These finalists represent the best of the best, and they're continuing to work every day to engage, inspire, and educate their students. We're so proud to be able to honor them and shine a spotlight on their accomplishments."

The top five Teacher of the Year and Administrator of the Year finalists will each receive a $500 cash prize and will earn a platform to share their best practices throughout the year.

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We will see you soon when we are all strong and healthy
The E.G. NICK'S Family
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INKSTER

State to investigate racial disparity in COVID-19 victims

A new task force, created by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, will investigate the serious racial disparity in cases of COVID-19 in the state.

Whitmer announced the new investigation last week and said that the task force would be chaired by Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II. Members will include leaders across state government and health care professionals from communities most impacted by the spread of coronavirus. The task force was expected to meet last week.

Statistics reported last Friday showed that more than 40 percent of COVID-19 deaths in Michigan are African Americans, while only 14 percent of state residents are African Americans.

"This virus is holding a mirror up to our society and reminding us of the deep inequities in this country," said Whitmer. "From basic lack of access to health care, transportation, and protections in the workplace, these inequities hit people of color and vulnerable communities the hardest. This task force will help us start addressing these disparities right now as we work to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Michigan."

"We know that generations of racial disparities and inequality has a detrimental impact on the lives of people across the state," Gilchrist said. "The coronavirus pandemic has shown this inequity to be particularly true, especially in the Black community, where the health of our friends and family has been disproportionately impacted. That's why we are taking immediate action to assemble some of the greatest minds to tackle this racial injustice now and in the future."

During the COVID-19 crisis, Whitmer has signed a number of executive orders aimed at protecting people in vulnerable communities. These include orders to temporarily ban evictions and tax foreclosures, expand unemployment benefits, and restore running water for families.

"It shouldn't take a global pandemic for us to address these problems" Whitmer continued. "It shouldn't take a crisis for us to expand unemployment benefits, ensure protections for workers who are sick, or expand access to quality, affordable health care.

"We're going to come out of this, but we must also learn some hard lessons about the deep problems in our economy that we need real, meaningful solutions on. As we recover from the impact of COVID-19, my administration will continue to focus on long-term solutions for every family in Michigan."

Senior residents warned of latest telephone scams

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Police and sheriff's departments as well as the American Association of Retired Persons are on the alert to help senior citizens stay safe during the current coronavirus pandemic.

Plymouth Township Police Chief Tom Tiderington and others in law enforcement remind seniors to be wary of phone calls which employ the "grandparent scam" when the caller pretends to be a younger family member and says bail money is needed immediately.

Police officials stress that seniors should hang up immediately and also recommend caller ID use to screen calls. Those calls should be immediately reported to the local police department nonemergency number, officials advised. to report those scams.

"Keep informed about the latest con schemes in your community by reading the newspaper. Be skeptical about any proposal that sounds too good to be true or has to be kept secret. Do not rush into anything. Check it out with friends, lawyers, police, the Better Business Bureau, or the state or county consumer affairs department," Tiderington cautioned on the www.plymouthtwp.org website.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel's office also handles scams targeting seniors, including work with state agencies, businesses, and the Michigan Legislature. She and Tiderington note "If you are the victim of fraud, call the police immediately. You may be embarrassed because you were tricked, but your information is vital in catching the con artist and preventing others from being victimized." Older people are victims of fraud schemes far out of proportion to their population numbers, according to reported statistics.

Nessel led an elder abuse forum at the Booker T. Dozier Recreation Center in Inksterearlier this year when she and other officials answered citizens' questions and offered advice about remaining safe from scams. Representatives of health agencies and the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services also attended the event designed to keep seniors informed.

Panelist Kari West of The Senior Alliance at the Inkster forum urged seniors to be informed.

"A lot of it is about addressing problems before they get too big." West said the genetic testing fraud scammers are "just trying to make a buck" and go to senior facilities unannounced, saying they'll take cheek swabs.

West got a specific test on the advice of her physician, noting "And my doctor got the results afterward. That's how it should happen."

Nessel advises everyone, not just seniors, to never disclose their Social Security number, noting federal agencies including Social Security and the Internal Revenue Service don't call people. "I'd rather you don't get scammed at all," the attorney general said, adding she's willing to prosecute with her staff's help.

"I want Michigan to be the most proactive state in the nation" on robocalls. She advised seniors not to answer the phone at all for an unknown number noting that individuals can look up the number on caller ID and then decide whether to return the call.

"We want to make the probate court system more user-friendly," Nessel said. She's especially concerned about those without legal representation.

Nessel said she appreciates the Michigan Supreme Court members' concern on how litigants are treated: "And they're not putting up with that," Nessel said of litigant mistreatment.

Area residents at the forum spoke passionately about themselves and their loved ones admission to and treatment in nursing homes.

Nessel acknowledged "holding for-profit nursing homes accountable" when understaffed, as well as advocating for a living wage in minimum wage pay was a goal.

Nessel noted some cases of guardians who sell a senior's home "right out from underneath them," put that person in nursing home care, and sell the home at well below market value.

She's concerned about guardians who have some 700 wards, which she learned on the listening tour. Some elderly people have their money and control of health matters in the hands of these guardians who can often be strangers.

Nessel announced a bipartisan Elder Abuse Task Force after conferring with justices of the Michigan Supreme Court. Nessel told the packed room on Aug. 26 of earlier efforts, "What these task forces had been good at was identifying problems in the system," she said.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2020
6:00 P.M.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT _____ BY CHAIRMAN MICHAEL CARLIN

ROLL CALL: Timothy Boyd
Michael Carlin
Gary Heitman
William Pratt
Don Schnettler

ITEM NO. 1 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting - October 3, 2019

ITEM NO. 2 - OLD BUSINESS (Tabled from 9/5/19 & canceled meeting from 4/2/2020)

Application No. 1597- Dagher Sign & Graphics (Representing Buddy's Pizza)
22476 Telegraph RD
Southfield MI 48033

Location - 15075 Beck RD

Tax I.D. Tax I.D. #78-005-99-0009-301
IND Zoning District

RE: Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 25 Sec 25.9 (1) (b) Sign Regulations, Area, Height and Placement

Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Maximum Monument Sign Area*	*Proposed Monument Sign Area*	*Variance Required*
1597	Ordinance 99, Article 25, Sec 25.9 (1) (b)	15075 Beck RD	60 square feet	65 square feet	5 square feet of sign area
Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Maximum Monument Sign Height*	*Proposed Monument Sign Height*	*Variance Required*
1597	Ordinance 99, Article 25, Sec 25.9 (1) (b)	15075 Beck RD	10 feet	12 feet	2 feet of sign height

The applicant is requesting two variances:

The applicant is in an IND zoning district and is requesting two variances:

1. To be allowed to have the sign area for a monument sign to be 65' square feet whereas 60' square feet is allowed with a distance from the road of 22' feet with a road frontage of over 200' feet. Variance requested is an additional 5' square feet of sign area.
2. To be allowed to have the height of the monument sign to be 12' feet whereas 10' feet is allowed with a distance of 22' feet from the road with over 200' feet of road frontage. Variance requested is 2' additional feet in height.

ITEM NO. 3 - Canceled Meeting Business from March 2020 & April 2020

Application No. 1600- United Road
41100 Plymouth RD B1 4th Floor
Plymouth MI 48170

Location - 41100 Plymouth RD (Burroughs Building)

Tax I.D. Tax I.D. #78-026-99-0002-705
IND Zoning District

RE: Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 25 Sec 25.9 (2) (e) (1) (f) Sign Regulations, Area, Height and Placement

Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*2nd Wall Sign with 1 means of ingress/egress*	*Proposed 2nd wall sign with 1 means of ingress/egress*	*Variance Required*
1600	Ordinance 99, Article 25, Sec 25.9 (2) (f)	41100 Plymouth RD	Not Allowed	2nd Sign	1 Additional Wall Sign

The applicant is requesting one variance:

The applicant is in an IND zoning district and is requesting two variances:

1. To allow a second wall sign on the same façade without a second means of public ingress/egress. *Variance requested is 1 additional wall sign.*

ITEM NO. 4 - Canceled Meeting Business from April 2, 2020

Application No. 1601- Angela Tzelepis
46226 Forestwood Dr.
Plymouth MI 48170

Location - 46226 Forestwood Dr.

Tax I.D. Tax I.D. #78-056-01-0174-000
R-1-S Zoning District

RE: Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 20 Sec 20.1 Height, Area, Lot Coverage, Yard Requirements and Floor Area (as amended 10/25/07).

Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Minimum Rear Yard Setback*	*Proposed Rear Yard Setback*	*Variance Required*
1601	Ordinance 99, Article 20, Sec 20.1	46226 Forestwood Dr.	Fifty Feet (50')	Forty-Three Feet (43')	Seven Feet (7')

The applicant is requesting one variance:

1. The applicant is in an R-1-S zoning district and is requesting one variance to construct a 13'x19' sunroom that would reduce the rear yard setback to 43' feet whereas 50' feet is required. Variance requested is Seven (7) feet.

Application No. 1602- Plymouth Park & Eats (Tommy Haji)
39411 Schoolcraft
Plymouth MI 48170

Location - 39411 Schoolcraft

Tax I.D. Tax I.D. #78-024-99-0049-000
IND Zoning District

RE: Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 25 Sec 25.9 (2) (e) (1) Sign Regulations, Area, Height & Placement. Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 25 Sec. 25.6 (3) (a) (d) (e) Banners, Pennants, Spinners, and Streamers. Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 25 Sec. 25.8 (16) Signs Prohibited in All Districts

Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Maximum Signable Area 30%, 25.2 Square Feet*	*Proposed Signable Area*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 25, Sec 25.1 (2) (e) (1)	39411 Schoolcraft	30% or 25.2' Square Feet	63.6' Square Feet of Dumpster Wall	Thirty-eight .4' (38.4') Square Feet of 7'x13' Dumpster Wall
Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Banner Signs Shall Be Temporary*	*Proposed Banner Sign Shall Be Permanent*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 25, Sec 25.6 (3) (a)	39411 Schoolcraft	Banner Signs Shall Be Temporary	Banner Sign Shall Be Permanent	One (1) Permanent Banner Sign
Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Banner Signs Shall Not Exceed 72 Hours*	*Proposed Banner Sign Shall Be Permanent*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 25, Sec 25.6 (3) (d)	39411 Schoolcraft	Banner Signs Shall Not Exceed 72 Hours	Banner Sign Shall Be Permanent	One (1) Permanent Banner Sign
Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Banner Signs Shall Only Be Granted (4) Times Per Year*	*Proposed Banner Sign Shall Be Permanent*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 25, Sec 25.6 (3) (e)	39411 Schoolcraft	Banner Signs Shall Only Be Granted (4) Times Per Year	Banner Sign Shall Be Permanent	One (1) Permanent Banner Sign
Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*String or Rope Lights to Not Highlight Architectural Features*	*Proposed Rope Lights Strung Along Top of Fence*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 25, Sec 25.8 (16)	39411 Schoolcraft	Prohibited Rope Lights Used to Highlight Architectural Feature	Rope Lights Strung Along Top of 4' Aluminum Fence	Allow Rope Lights to Be Strung Along Top of 4' Aluminum Fence

RE: Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 28 Sec 28.8 (1) (b) Exterior Lighting, General Requirements. Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 28 Sec 28.8 (3) (b) Prohibited Exterior Lighting.

Continued, page 4

Plymouth

Commissioners delay Kellogg Park fountain project

The City of Plymouth and The Wilcox Foundation have mutually agreed to delay the Wilcox Fountain Project until the spring of 2021 due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, according to a statement from Mayor Oliver Wolcott.

"There is now just too much risk involved in trying to complete the project this year. The project schedule was already tight, and the current pandemic adds a significant number of unknowns and new risks to the schedule," he said.

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) also released a statement about the delay, noting, "The uncertainties around the City's ability to schedule the independent contractors to perform the site construction work, and supply-chain disruptions are two of the major factors in our decision; a partial completion of the fountain before winter is not an option."

Both referred to the action as a "temporary setback" and characterized the situation as "disappointing." They agreed that the delay provides the opportunity to potentially start the project earlier in the spring of 2021 and work continuously until completion that summer.

"Unfortunately, circumstances beyond our control have forced major upheavals in many aspects of our lives. The City of Plymouth and The Wilcox Foundation remain committed to the project, and seeing it become a reality in 2021," Wolcott's statement noted.

"We are all making the best of a truly unprecedented situation and will emerge from this crisis a stronger community," he concluded.

An artist's rendering of the proposed Kellogg Park fountain.

Curbside compost waste pick-up suspended in city

Curbside pick up of compost waste in the City of Plymouth has been suspended in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

City of Plymouth officials recently issued a statement regarding trash collection in the city during the Stay Home Stay Safe executive order from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

> *The City of Plymouth is taking enormous steps to provide business as usual in these times of trial.*

"The City of Plymouth is taking enormous steps to provide business as usual in these times of trial, while also diligently taking steps to keep our residents and staff safe." The statement begins.

"Some of our contractors, however, have had to adjust their services as a result of COVID-19. Republic Services is temporarily suspending the beginning of yard waste service across all the communities they serve. It is unknown how long this delay will be in effect."

According to the notification, each bag or can of compost creates an additional touch point for the drivers, which then increases the possibility they could be exposed to the virus. Residents are being asked not to place any extra bags or cans at the curb until the service resumes.

Trash pickups should continue on the regular schedule.

Another way to decrease the number of touch points for the service provider is to make sure all refuse fits into the automated trash cart or green City of Plymouth trash bags. Drivers do not have to touch the cart and can safely empty it from the cab. Bags that sit on top of the cart fall off, requiring drivers to stop the truck, get out and touch the bag and put it in the truck, according to city officials.

All refuse should be placed in the cart with the lid closed. Republic Services will continue their temporary suspension of bulk item pick up; however, Municipal Services staff will pick up large items as usual. To schedule a pick up of large items, call (734) 453-7737. There will be a charge for the service.

City employees will continue the brush chipping schedule, but ask that residents only place brush out to the curb that does not fit inside yard waste bags or cans.

Residents are advised not to place small sticks and twigs or grass clippings in the street for collection.

Additionally, city officials have closed the play structures in the parks until further notice. Residents are encouraged to enjoy the parks by taking walks or kicking around a ball with family members.

Commissioners set date to discuss 2020-2021 budget

Members of the Plymouth City Commission took advantage of technology and met remotely using Zoom internet software April 6.

During the meeting, commissioners approved $8,549.27 in repairs to the city street sweeping machine.

City contracted mechanics determined the sweeper had major damage to the hydraulic manifold, necessitating the repairs. The work will be done by Bell Equipment Co. and the repair costs will be met with funds from city budget equipment fund, according to officials.

Commissioners also approved a new zoning classification for city-owned parks, parkland and playgrounds.

The new Parks and Open Space designation is supported by the city Master Plan, officials said, and was approved by members of the Planning Commission in January. A second reading of the proposed language and map amendments is expected to be an agenda item at the next regular meeting of the city commission.

In addition, the 2020 contract for the lawn maintenance and mowing of 31 locations in the city was awarded to Serene Surroundings. The contract could be extended for three years, administration officials noted.

Members of the city commission also saw the proposed city budget for 2020-2021 during the meeting. The Plymouth City Charter requires the administration to deliver a balanced budget at this first meeting in April. Administration officials acknowledged the possibility of multiple changes to the figures presented in the budget due to impact on revenue sources due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Officials tentatively scheduled a budget study session for tonight, April 16. The proposed budget can be found at: http://www.plymouthmi.gov/2020budget.

Saxton's development OK'd

A final site plan for the Saxton's property on Ann Arbor Trail has been approved by a 5-3 vote of members of the Plymouth Planning Commission. The commissioners also recommended approval of a Planned Unit Development at the site.

The proposal from Jewell-Maple Development, includes renovation of the Jewell building and demolition of the adjacent building which formerly housed Saxton's and the addition of 10 residential units at the rear of the property along Maple Street, including townhomes.

The no votes came from Commissioner Hollie Saraswat, Vice chairwoman Jennifer Kehoe and Chairwoman Karen Sisolak.

Commissioner Chuck Myslinski was not in attendance.

Conditions discussed included a maximum height for townhomes and a required certificate of occupancy for the Jewell building prior to constructing the residential units.

"We wish you the best. We're looking forward to you being successful," sisolak told the developer. "I hope that you know that you've got our support for this."

Continued, from page 3

Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*All Exterior Lighting Shall Be Directed Downward & Shielded*	*Proposed Rope Lighting*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 28, Sec 28.8 (1) (b)	39411 Schoolcraft	Rope Lighting Shall Be Shielded & Directed Downward	Rope Lighting (Christmas Light(s) & Festoon Lights (String Light(s) Non Shielded & No Downward Direction	Rope Lighting & Festoon Lighting with No Shielding & No Downward Direction
Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Prohibited Exterior Lighting*	*Proposed Exterior Lighting*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 28, Sec 28.8 (3) (b)	39411 Schoolcraft	Unshielded Illumination of Landscaping Shall be Prohibited	Fence & Festoon Lighting Unshielded	Fence & Festoon Lighting to be Unshielded

RE: Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 28 Sec 28.9 (1) Waste Receptacle Requirements. Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 28 Sec 28.9 (2) (a) Waste Receptacle Enclosures.

Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Prohibited Waste Receptacles in Open Yards or Lots*	*Proposed Waste Water Receptacle in Open Lot*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 28, Sec 28.9 (1) (a)	39411 Schoolcraft	No Waste Receptacles in Open Yard or Lots	Waste Water Receptacle in Open Lot	Waste Water Receptacle in Open Lot
Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Waste Receptacle Enclosures*	*Proposed Waste Receptacle*	*Variance Required*
1602	Ordinance 99, Article 28, Sec 28.9 (2) (a)	39411 Schoolcraft	Waste Receptacles Shall be Completely Enclosed	Unenclosed & Free-Standing Waste Water Receptacle	Waste Water Receptacle Free Standing & Unenclosed

The applicant is requesting nine variances:

1. The applicant does not have a building on site, so he has used the 7'x12' (84' square foot) dumpster wall for his wall sign (aka mural). The mural painting is 63.6' square feet whereas the maximum signable area is 30% or 25.2' square feet. *The one variance requested is 38.4' square feet of signable area.*
2. Banner signs shall be temporary, not to exceed 72 hours and not to exceed 4 times per year. The applicant has no place on the property where a monument sign can be constructed so the banner has been installed on the 4' aluminum fence. The three variance requests are: *(1) to be allowed the banner to stay attached to the fence permanently hence (2) exceeding the 72 hours and (3) more than the 4 times per year.*
3. The string lights (Christmas lights) attached to the top of the 4' fence around the property are prohibited to highlight architectural features. *The one variance requested is to allow string lights (Christmas lights) to be used as an architectural feature.*
4. All exterior lighting shall be directed downward and shielded; if not the lighting is prohibited. The applicant has the rope lighting (Christmas lights) and festoon lighting (string lights) both of which are not shielded or directed downward. *The two variance requests are: (1) to allow both the rope & string lights be allowed to stay permanently even though (2) they are not shielded or downward directed.*
5. The waste water receptacle is a free-standing tank sitting on the court pavement whereas the ordinance states it is prohibited to be in an open lot and should be enclosed within a structure. *The two variances requested are: (1) to allow the waste water tank to remain free standing with (2) no enclosure.*

ITEM NO. 5 - New Business

Application No. 1603- Boleski Funeral Home
25509 W Warren RD
Dearborn Heights MI 48127

Location - Vacant Land S 5 Mile RD/E Haggerty RD Corner Lot

Tax I.D. Tax I.D. 878-021-99-0008-701 & 878-021-99-0008-702
OS (Consent Judgement) Zoning District

Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Minimum Front Yard Setback with Parking*	*Proposed Front Yard Setback with Parking*	*Variance Required*
1603	Ordinance 99, Article 20, Sec 20.2 (o)	Vacant Land Corner of 5 Mile RD/Haggerty RD	Seventy-five Feet (75')	Sixty-six.6 Feet (66.6')	Eight.6 Feet (8.6')
Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Minimum Side Yard Setback with Parking*	*Proposed Side Yard Setback with Parking*	*Variance Required*
1603	Ordinance 99, Article 20, Sec 20.2 (r)	Vacant Land Corner of 5 Mile RD/Haggerty RD	Seventy-five Feet (75')	Sixty-six.6 Feet (66.6')	Eight.6 Feet (8.6')

The applicant is requesting two variances:

The applicant is in an OS (Consent Judgement) zoning district and is requesting two variances to construct a 11,621' square foot new commercial funeral home with parking located front & side yards:

1. To reduce the front yard (5 Mile RD) setback to 66.6' feet whereas 75' feet is required. Variance requested is eight .6 feet (8.6) front yard setback.
2. To reduce the side yard (Haggerty RD) setback to 66.6' feet whereas 75' feet is required. Variance requested is eight.6 feet (8.6) side yard setback.

Application No. 1604- Rayyan Center
46441 5 Mile RD
Plymouth MI 48170

Location - 46441 5 Mile RD

Tax I.D. Tax I.D. 878-010-99-0002-712
IND Zoning District

RE: Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 19 Sec 19.3 (5) IND District, Uses Specifically Prohibited

Variance No.	*Zoning Ordinance Section/Standard*	*Location*	*Uses Specifically Prohibited*	*Proposed Use*	*Variance Required*
1604	Ordinance 99, Article 19, Sec 19.3	46441 5 Mile RD	School	Montessori Pre school	Allow Montessori Pre school

1. The applicant is in an IND zoning district and is requesting one variance to allow a Montessori Pre-school whereas schools are specifically prohibited. *Variance requested is to allow a Montessori Pre-school within an existing building in an IND district.*

If denied, the applicant may appeal to Circuit Court.

The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170, (734) 354-3211, TDD users: 1-800-649-3777 (Michigan Relay Service)

PT0203 - 041620 2.5 x 19.327 = 2.5 x 15.417

NORTHVILLE - SUMPTER - ROMULUS

Happy Birthday

Public safety officers help celebrate kids' special days

Blakely Cates and her dad, Doyle Cates, Jr., enjoy the arrival of the Sumpter Fire Department trucks and police cars to celebrate her 8th birthday.

As the coronavirus continues to rage across the state, isolating families and curtailing usual holiday celebrations, some local police and fire departments have found a way to brighten birthdays for area children.

The Sumpter Township Public Safety Department helped Blakely Cates enjoy a very special 8th birthday celebration last week, despite the limits of the current public health crisis, when township police cars and fire trucks drove by the Cates' Sumpter Road home with lights flashing and sirens blaring, all to let her know that this was, in fact, her special day.

Sumpter Township Public Safety Director Eric Luke said he had to give credit to the Dundee Fire Department for the idea.

"I saw it and I thought, that's something we can do here."

The Northville Township Public Safety Department is also visiting area homes to help brighten up children's birthdays with a special lights and siren tribute to youngsters who have been kept at home for several weeks.

Doyle Cates, Jr. said his daughter really enjoyed the special attention, "She was ecstatic," he said. "She told me that this was the best day ever."

Luke and his family have lived in Sumpter since 1996, right after his graduation from high school. His parents now live about eight houses away, so they could enjoy the special birthday tribute, too.

Neighbors also stepped outside to send birthday wishes and the nearby Duncan family even made a Happy Birthday Blakely sign they drove around the yard on a wagon.

Luke said that the police and fire officers have done several of these birthday drive-bys since he first posted the opportunity on the Sumpter Township Police Facebook page. The lights and sirens tributes are available for children ages 3 through 10 while the governor's current Stay at Home Order continues, Luke said.

Requests for children slightly older with special needs will also be considered, he added. The officers typically make the birthday runs between 10:30 and 11 a.m. The police officers meet the fire trucks at the station and they head out to deliver the extra-special good wishes.

"These are strange times," Luke said, "and this brings a lot of joy to a lot of people. I think it benefits us as much as them. The officers and firemen get out and see the reaction of the kids, and the parents," he said.

Parents can simply message the details of the birthday to the public safety department and the officers will make the drive-by happen, if possible, Luke said.

"Our police department is just the greatest. They do so much with us and work with the whole community," Cates said. "This brings a lot of tears to a lot of people."

The Northville Township Police cars and fire department trucks visited several birthday events last week, two at Plymouth Township homes on Ivywood.

At one home, 5-year-old Jack Aaron had stopped by his grandparents' home for a remote visit where he found his gift, a brand-new battery-operated miniature Jeep, waiting for him in their garage. He was eager to take the miniature vehicle for a spin.

The public safety tribute was appreciated, too, by Jack's parents, Aaron and Jill Howard. To request a visit in Northville, access communityrelations@twpnorthville.mi.us, and if they can, the public safety staff will help youngsters celebrate safely on their special day.

Jack Howard, center, along with mom, Jill, and dad, Aaron, enjoy the attention from Northville Township Public Safety vehicles on his birthday last week.

Mayor posts message to residents

Romulus Mayor LeRoy Burcroff updated city residents about the current status in the city recently and offered some suggestions during the isolation.

"This week, Governor Whitmer extended her Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order through April 30. I know these are difficult times, but I am grateful for your efforts to stay home and help us flatten the curve. I encourage you to use this time to connect with your family and friends-whether via Snapchat, FaceTime or by picking up the phone to give them a call. I also ask that you continue praying for and thinking of our first responders and essential workers." Burcroff said in a Facebook message.

"While it may not be top of mind for many, now is an opportune time to complete your 2020 Census. You can do so from home, by mail, phone or online. Right now, our response rate is higher than state and national levels–let's keep that up.

"It's extremely important we are counted accurately to ensure we receive the funding needed for Romulus to thrive over the next 10 years. You can learn more at https://2020census.gov/.

"Be well, look out for your neighbors and stay Romulus strong," Burcroff concluded.

Northville Township parks closed

All Northville Township parks, including the soccer, baseball and lacrosse fields have been closed in response to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive order to Stay Home Stay Safe. The fields, courts, playgrounds, equipment and the dog parks will be closed at least until that order is listed, officials said in a prepared statement.

Paths and walkways will remain open for walking, bike riding and running but require that users follow the social distancing guidelines and remain at least 6-feet apart from one another. Parks and recreation officials said the policy would be re-evaluated as the governor' order was lifted.

Signs will be posted at each park location and the public is urged to monitor and ensure that everyone is adhering to the guidelines.

"We do not want our first responders to have to devote valuable lifesaving time monitoring parks, playgrounds and athletic fields," officials said.

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6. Legal Notices

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WAYNE

PUBLICATION NOTICE
TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S
TRUST ESTATE

Decedent: ROBERT JOSEPH MAGON
Date of Birth: 2.16.47
TO ALL CREDITORS: *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, ROBERT JOSEPH MAGON who lived at 50541 South Tyler Drive Plymouth, Michigan

died On April 5, 2020
There is no probate estate.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Robert J. Magon Revocable Trust Agreement dated May 21, 2012, will be forever barred unless presented to:Joanne Thelsen, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

April 10, 2020

Joanne Thelsen
8272 O'Dowling
Onsted MI 49265

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Wayne - Westland

Wayne High School wrestling coach fired

Andrew Hein has been terminated from his position as wrestling coach and physical education teacher at Wayne Memorial High School.

The termination reportedly stems from an auto accident which took place at about 8:18 a.m. Feb. 8 on the I-96 exit in Howell. According to the accident report, the driver lost control of the vehicle while traveling at more than the 70 miles per hour speed limit and drove into the area between the highway and the exit ramp where the vehicle rolled over.

The original police report stated that Hein, as the driver, was the sole occupant of the vehicle while subsequent events indicated that at least three members of the wrestling team were in the car at the time of the crash.

> *The students subsequently admitted being in the car when one of them exhibited signs of a concussion.*

The students subsequently admitted being in the car when one of them exhibited signs of a concussion three days after the Saturday morning crash. Reportedly, Hein was transporting the students to a wrestling tournament in Howell. The students were picked up from the accident scene, transported to the competition where they competed in their respective matches, according to reports.

None of them received any medical treatment at the time.

The students later confessed that Hein had told them not to mention the accident to anyone.

Reportedly, the county prosecutor is reviewing the police reports to determine if any criminal charges should be filed.

Westland mayor reports 29 coronavirus deaths

Westland Mayor William R. Wild had a sobering message for residents of the community last week.

"As of today, (April 10), Westland has 278 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 17 Westland residents have lost their lives as a result of contracting the virus," Wild said.

On Tuesday, the number of deaths had increased to 29 in the city.

"Our staff is working hard to continue to serve the public while adhering to the directives from the State of Michigan and our primary focus and concern is keeping members of the community safe and doing everything in our part to slow the spread and minimize the number of people affected."

Wild's remarks came one day after Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced an extension to the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order through April 30. The governor's order limits gatherings and travel and requires all workers who are not necessary to sustain or protect life to stay home.

Wild said that the closure of all Westland municipal buildings, including the Westland Public Library, the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center, the Senior Friendship Center, the Mack Mayfield Municipal Golf Course and Westland City Hall would be extended.

For the most current information and updates on other city closures and postponements, visit www.cityofwestland.com

In accordance with state and federal guidelines with regards to social distancing, Wild said that Westland City Hall would remain operational with a limited staff.

Contact information for city departments is also available on the website, wwwcityofwestland.com.

Wild added that city staff members will continue to respond to emails and voicemails as quickly as possible.

There are also two drop boxes located in front of city hall for residents to drop off payments and paperwork which will continue to be checked daily.

Essential government services that will continue include public safety, utilities, animal control, housing and building departments, sanitation (including trash collection), and finance, Wild concluded.

Legislators demand more pandemic case information

State Reps. Kevin Coleman (D-Westland) and Jewell Jones (D-Inkster) are calling for more data on COVID-19 cases to be made accessible to the public.

Information on the number of daily hospitalizations, case severity, and available resources, including number of beds and personal protective equipment, is necessary for local governments to provide the necessary resources to combat the public health crisis. Hospitals and health care systems need to share their data with the state and counties to ensure local governments and residents fully understand the current situation, the legislators agreed in a statement.

"County governments and the state must release daily updates on important statistical data including the number of severe versus mild cases and hospitalizations," said Coleman. "Our cities and townships cannot plan adequate responses without understanding the exact scope and scale they are facing tomorrow."

"Michigan's response to this crisis has been nimble, but everyone has struggled to fully utilize their resources without an accurate picture of the entire situation.

"Although there's no way to know all the answers, information that we can quantify and share would help a great deal," said Jones. "Having the facts and being able to place ourselves in the best position to combat this crisis will ensure our speedy transition back to a more normal life while discouraging fear and panic at the same time."

Meetings

FROM PAGE 1

Safe order, all City of Plymouth board and commission meetings are utilizing the Zoom application. A link for each meeting is emailed to those who sign up to receive meeting minutes and agendas on the city website, officials said. Links, agendas and meeting minutes are also posted on the city website agenda center. A portion of every meeting is dedicated to public comments. To participate, type "Public Comments - " in the everyone chat window.

Meetings of the members of the Romulus City Council are also taking place using the Zoom computer program. Citizens may submit their questions and comments prior to the meeting, no later than 4 p.m. the date of the meeting to: publiccomment@romulusgov.com.

All citizens will be given an opportunity for their comments to be heard and or read during the public comment period of the meeting. To join the Zoom meeting, access www.romulusgov.com where full instructions for joining the meeting and the meeting ID number will be provided.

The City of Northville has also set up Zoom access for meetings. During these meetings, council members and board and commission members will be on video and guests may choose to view it on video or listen to it on audio only.

To view the meeting on video, you need to log in to the meeting from a computer, tablet or smart phone. On a smart phone, in advance of the meeting, download the Zoom mobile app. For first-time users from a desktop or laptop, when you click on the meeting link you will be prompted to download the software which takes about 30 seconds. You will be prompted to connect audio and/or video, then click on the button that says "Join Meeting." If you are using a landline or eOIP phone, you can join a Zoom meeting via teleconferencing/audio conferencing by simply dialing the number provided by the city.

The audience will not be on camera. Guests using the video capabilities will appear as audio only (heard but not seen) if they choose to speak publicly, and the same, obviously, for guests who've called in to the meeting. Meetings will be recorded. City council meetings will be posted to the Vimeo account, with access from the city website homepage, the next day unless there are technical difficulties.

> *Each meeting has an ID number with an access code. There is no charge to participate in Zoom meetings.*

Each meeting has an ID number with an access code. You can access the meeting code by starting at the agendas and minutes page (in government) and then click on the council, board or commission meeting you want to attend.

The access code to these meetings is live several minutes prior to the start of the meeting as well as throughout the meeting.

There is no charge to participate in Zoom meetings.

The City of Westland council meetings are also taking place utilizing the Zoom feature. Information is available at the city website, wwweityofwestland.com. Instructions for participating in public comment at the meeting are also available. Electronic attendees will be able to use the "Raise Hand" function during the citizen's comments sections of the meeting.

The council president will recognize the resident and will be allowed to speak when called upon for up to 3 minutes. Telephone attendees will be placed in a queue by pressing *9 and will be identified and called upon by the last four digits of their telephone number.

Normal public comment protocols will be followed, officials said.

Belleville, Inkster and Wayne officials have cancelled public meetings through the end of the month, as have township board members in Sumpter and Northville in an effort to adhere to the governor's extended orders and keep township employees and the public safe.

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